



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,028	08/18/2004	George Edward Williams	19441-0070	5027

29052 7590 09/27/2006

SUTHERLAND ASBILL & BRENNAN LLP
999 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E.
ATLANTA, GA 30309

EXAMINER

ZANELLI, MICHAEL J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3661

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/711,028

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS ET AL.

Examiner

Michael J. Zanelli

Art Unit

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is responsive to the amendment filed 7/17/06. Claims 1-23 are pending.
2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
3. Claims 1-6, 11, 12-18 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frantz et al. in view of Citenio et al. (6,003,296) and Robinson et al. (5,404,760).

A. As per claims 1 and 13, Frantz discloses a system for remotely monitoring a plurality of turbines (Abs). Monitoring equipment associated with each turbine measures various parameters such as operating pressures and vibrations (col. 3, lines 27-29; col. 4, lines 22-26) and communicates the information to a remote server whereby graphical information regarding each of the turbines may be generated (Figs. 4, 7; col. 1, lines 49-67; col. 2, lines 51-52). Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to further include an emissions monitor to identify emission information for the turbine(s). However, at the time of applicant's invention it was known in the turbine monitoring art that turbine emission levels were a critical parameter to be monitored because of environmental concerns (Citenio: col. 2, lines 53-59) as well as an indication that the turbine was not working properly (Robinson: col. 1, lines 7-12; col. 3, line 65 to col. 4, line 5). Based on these known concerns, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to modify Frantz to include emission information and to communicate that information along with the other monitored turbine operating parameters.

Art Unit: 3661

- B. As per claims 2-6 and 14-18, as above whereby Frantz discloses parameters other than pressure may be monitored and communicated to the remote server for display (see Fig. 7; col. 7, lines 21-40).
- C. As per claims 11 and 23, as above whereby Frantz discloses site location of the turbine(s) may be displayed (Fig. 4).
- D. As per claim 12, as above whereby Frantz discloses using the Internet to communicate the monitored information to a remote location (Abs; Fig. 2).
4. Claims 7-10 and 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frantz et al. in view of Citenio et al., Robinson et al. and Nomura et al.
- A. Frantz, Citenio and Robinson are applied as above whereby Frantz discloses that various operating parameters are monitored at the remote location, including pressure within the combustion chamber and vibration information (col. 3, lines 27-29; col. 4, lines 22-26). The claimed invention differs in that additional parameters are considered such as maximum pressure and frequency band information.
- B. Nomura discloses a gas turbine monitoring system which analyzes pressure oscillations and frequency bands relative thereto (Abs). Nomura further discloses considering frequency bands within the range of 0 to 5000 Hz (col. 10, lines 53-57). One of ordinary skill in the art of gas turbines would have found it obvious to utilize the remote monitoring system of Frantz to monitor any one of a plurality of different operating parameters and analyze frequency information known to be indicative of turbine operation as exemplified by Nomura.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

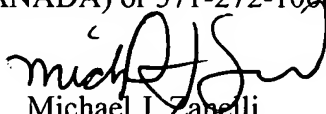
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Zanelli whose telephone number is (571) 272-6969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Black can be reached on (571) 272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3661

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Michael J. Zanelli
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3661

September 13, 2006